AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) An epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (B), which contains an epoxy group in the polymer chain of a low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (A), and has

(i) a density of 870 to 1,050 kg/m^3,

(ii) a melting point of 70 to 130°C, and

(iii) a number-average molecular weight (Mn) of 400 to 5,000.

2. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 1, which contains 80 to 99 mol% of the structural unit derived from ethylene.

3. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 1, wherein the epoxy group content is 30% to 100% of the total unsaturated bonds of the low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (A)

4. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 1, wherein the molecular weight distribution (Mw/Mn) is 5.0 or less, and the penetration is 15 dmm or less.

5. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 1, wherein the low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (A) comprises (a) a structural unit derived from ethylene and at least one diene, or (b) a structural unit derived from ethylene, at least one α-olefin selected from α-olefins having 3 to 12 carbon atoms and at least one diene.

6. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 5, wherein the diene is a diene in the branched structure.

7. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 5, wherein the diene is vinylnorbornene(5-vinylbicyclo[2,2,1]hept-2-ene), and

(i)' the density is 900 to 1,050 kg/m^3, and

(ii)' the melting point is 100 to 130°C.

8. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 1, which is obtained by reaction of the low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (A) with hydrogen peroxide in the presence of a Group VI transition metal catalyst and a phase transfer catalyst.

9. (Original) The epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer according to claim 1, wherein the low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (A) is a polymer prepared by using a metallocene catalyst.

10. (Currently Amended) A release agent for an electrophotographic toner, which comprises a modified low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (C) obtained from the epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (B) according to claim 1 and a carboxylic acid compound, ~~and the toner having toner particles is obtained by suspending at least a polymerizable monomer, a coloring agent and said release agent in an aqueous dispersion medium and subjecting them to a suspension polymerization using a polymerization initiator~~.

11. (Currently Amended) An electrophotographic toner for developing an electrostatic charge image, which comprises a binder resin for a toner, a coloring agent, a release agent, and a modified low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (C) obtained from the epoxidized low-molecular-weight ethylene polymer (B) according to claim 1 and a carboxylic acid compound, <u>wherein the toner has toner particles obtained by suspending at least a polymerizable monomer, said coloring agent and said release agent in an aqueous dispersion medium and subjecting them to a suspension polymerization using a polymerization initiator</u>.

12. (Original) The electrophotographic toner for developing an electrostatic charge image according to claim 11, which is prepared by the preparation process comprising at least the step of mixing a release agent dispersion having release agent particles dispersed therein.

13. (Original) The electrophotographic toner for developing an electrostatic charge image according to claim 11, which comprises 1 to 20 parts by mass of the modified low-molecular-weight ethylene compound (C) in the toner.

14. (Canceled)